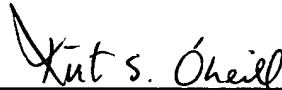


Remarks/Arguments

In the Office Action, the examiner entered a final rejection of claims 23 and 25, and objected to claim 24 as being dependent on a rejected base claim. The present amendment is requested in order to place the claims in better condition for appeal. Specifically, claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form and presented as new claim 42. Also, claim 25 has been amended to depend from claim 23, which appears to be the dependency applied by the examiner in making the rejection. Consequently, claims 23 and 25 are preserved for appeal.

Respectfully submitted,



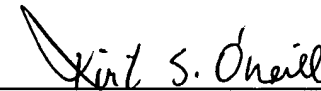
Kirt S. O'Neill, Reg. No. 38,257

Date: November 20, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 20, 2003.



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